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BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL

Letter dated 16 April 1996 from the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to the Secretary-General of the United Nations

As you know, the World Commission on Culture and Development has completed its report, entitled Our Creative Diversity, which is to be considered by the General Assembly of the United Nations and by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). As far as UNESCO is concerned, the process has been set in motion, and its Executive Board will consider the report at its forthcoming one hundred and forty-ninth session. In order to facilitate submission of the report to the relevant organs of the United Nations, I should be grateful if you would ensure that the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed organizational session of 1996, considers the question of transmitting the report to the Assembly for consideration at its fifty-first session.

You will recall that the Commission was established in 1992 in accordance with 26C/resolution 3.4 of the General Conference of UNESCO and Assembly resolution 46/158, in consultation with yourself. Together, we appointed Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar as President of the Commission, and invited 12 other eminent persons to be its members. The Commission began its work in the spring of 1993, and embarked on a wide-ranging process of reflection and analysis based on public hearings with eminent specialists in each of the world's regions and consultations with individuals and institutions. By October 1995, the Commission had completed its task; in November 1995, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar presented Our Creative Diversity during special ceremonies at the twenty-eighth session of the General Conference of UNESCO and at the fiftieth session of the General Assembly.

Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar wrote to you in December 1995 in connection with the proposed consideration of the report by the Assembly (E/1996/13, annex).

In the light of the above and knowing your particular interest in the subject, I should appreciate it very much if you would kindly facilitate the procedures required for consideration of the report by the Assembly at its fifty-first session.

(Signed) Federico MAYOR
Director-General